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X being transmitted via EFS or via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 (Centralized Facsimile Number) at the U.S.  
Patent and Trademark Office to the Attention of Examiner Jeff H. Aftergut.

/Mark D. Saralino/

Mark D. Saralino

May 2, 2006

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Kikuo YONEOKA et al.

Application No.: 10/684,790

Filing Date: October 14, 2003

For: PLACEMENT DEVICE

Examiner: Jeff H. Aftergut

Art Unit: 1733

**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 3, 2006

Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully  
requested in view of the following comments.